

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of redirecting information in a segmented virtual machine (VM) including a shell VM and a core VM, the method comprising:
 - establishing a first connection between an external application and the shell VM via a switch to transfer information between the external application and the core VM via the switch, the shell VM, and a communication link between the shell VM and the core VM;
 - establishing a second connection between the shell VM and the core VM via the switch such that the information between the external application and the core VM is transferred via the shell VM, the switch, and the second connection instead of the communication link; and
 - using the switch to stitch a portion of ~~stitching~~ the first connection between the external application and the switch and a portion of the second connection between the switch and the core VM to redirect the information between the external application and the core VM, including by bypassing the shell VM to reduce load on the shell VM, and transferring the data via a portion of the first connection and a portion of the second connection; wherein the switch transfers data via the portion of the first connection and the portion of the second connection, thereby bypassing the shell VM; wherein:

the shell VM and the core VM each perform some but not all functions of the segmented VM.

2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein redirecting includes receiving the information at [a] the switch.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the information is redirected to the core VM.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the information is redirected to the external application.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information is included in a TCP packet or TCP connection.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a packet received by the core VM includes a translated address indicating that the packet has been sent by the shell VM.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a packet received by the external application includes a translated address indicating that the packet has been sent by the shell VM.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein redirecting includes translating an address within a packet.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including determining that the information should be redirected.

14. (Cancelled)
15. (Cancelled)
16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information is redirected once a connection associated with the information lasts longer than a certain period of time.
17. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information is redirected once a connection associated with the information sends more than a certain number of packets.
18. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information is redirected once the shell VM device carries a certain load.
19. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including:
receiving a message indicating that the information sending has been completed; and
sending a control message.
20. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including:
receiving a message indicating that the information sending has been completed; and
forwarding the message.
21. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including:
receiving a message indicating that the information sending has been completed;
translating the message; and
sending the translated message.
22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a device that includes [a] the switch and [a] the core VM redirects the information.
23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a device that includes [a] the switch and the shell VM redirects the information.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a device that includes the shell VM, the core VM, and [a] the switch redirects the information.
25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein redirecting the information further comprises:
- sending a discovery packet;
 - receiving a reply to the discovery packet; and
 - determining whether [a] the switch is capable of stitching based on the reply by examining the reply to determine whether the reply includes an indication of whether the switch has stitching capability.
26. (Original) The method of claim 22, further including determining the number of ingress and egress points on a device.
27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
- receiving a discovery packet at [a] the switch; and
 - sending a response indicating a capability of the switch.
28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further including determining whether the switch is one hop away from a device that sent the discovery packet.
29. (Currently Amended) A system for redirecting information in a segmented VM including a shell VM and a core VM, comprising:
- a device on which the shell VM operates;
 - and
 - a switch configured to:
 - establish a first connection between an external application and the shell VM to transfer information between the external application and the core VM via

the switch, the shell VM, and a communication link between the shell VM and the core VM;

establish a second connection between the shell VM and the core VM such that the information between the external application and the core VM is transferred via the shell VM, the switch, and the second connection instead of the communication link; and

stitch a portion of the first connection between the external application and the switch and a portion of the second connection between the switch and the core VM to redirect the information between the external application and the core VM, ~~including by bypassing the shell VM to reduce load on the shell VM, and transferring the data via a portion of the first connection and a portion of the second connection;~~ wherein the switch transfers data via the portion of the first connection and the portion of the second connection, thereby bypassing the shell VM; wherein:

the shell VM and the core VM each perform some but not all functions of the segmented VM.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 29, further comprising a second device that includes an external application.
31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 29, wherein the device includes a core VM.
32. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 29, wherein:
 - [a] the shell VM configured to:
 - send a discovery packet;
 - receive a reply to the discovery packet; and

determine whether [a] the switch is capable of stitching based on the reply by examining the reply to determine whether the reply includes an indication of whether the switch has stitching capability; and

the system further comprises [a] the switch configured to send a reply to the discovery packet.

33. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 29, wherein:

[a] the shell VM configured to send a discovery packet; and

the system further comprises [a] the switch configured to:

receive the discovery packet; and

respond with a capability of the switch.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

A telephonic interview in the above-referenced case was conducted on January 19, 2010 between the Examiner and the Applicants' undersigned representative. The Office Action mailed on October 13, 2009 was discussed. Specifically, the rejections of claim 1 in light of Gaylas, McGuire, and Williams and the proposed amendments set forth herein were discussed with the intent to place the claims in better condition for allowance or appeal.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the interview.